

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMCONGEN NAPLES IT

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E.O. 11652: N/A;TAGS: PINS, PINT, IT

SUBJECT: DE MARTINO KIDNAPPING

1) SUMMARY - THE NEWS OF THE KIDNAPPING OF GUIDO DE MARTINO, PSI PROVINCIAL SECRETARY FOR NAPLES AND SON OF FORMER PSI NATIONAL SECRETARY FRANCESCO DE MARTINO, HAS SHAKEN THE CITY. IT WAS WIDELY PRESUMED FROM THE FIRST TO BE POLITICALLY MOTIVED, RATHER THAN SIMPLE KIDNAP FOR GAIN. LATEST NEWS APPEARS TO BEAR OUT THIS INTERPRETATION - END SUMMARY.

2) AS HAS NOW BEEN WIDELY REPORTED, GUIDO DE MARTINO, PSI PROVINCIAL SECRETARY FOR NAPLES, WAS KIDNAPPED FROM IN FRONT OF HIS NAPLES HOME LATE YESTERDAY EVENING. HE IS THE SON OF ON. FRANCESCO DE MARTINO, FORMER NATIONAL SECRETARY OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY. THE NEWS

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HAS SHAKEN AN ALREADY KIDNAP CONSCIOUS CITY, FIRST BECAUSE THE TARGET WAS SO WELL KNOWN AND SECONDLY BECAUSE IT HAS BEEN WIDELY PRESUMED FROM THE FIRST THAT IT WAS POLITICALLY MOTIVATED. IN SPITE OF THE ELDER DE MARTINO'S COMMENT THAT THE ONLY RANSOM HE COULD PAY WOULD BE THE BOOKS FROM HIS LIBRARY, THE FAMILY IS NOT POOR. REPORTEDLY, THEY MAINTAIN A VERY COMFORTABLE SUMMER HOME NEARBY BUT, IN TERMS OF KIDNAP FOR PROFIT, DE MARTINO WOULD SEEM A POOR CHOICE AS FAR AS PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE GOES.

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3. THE SITUATION IS STILL UNCLEAR. AT ONE POINT IT WAS REPORTED THAT THE NAP (NUCLEI ARMATI PROLETARI), NAPLES' HOME-GROWN TERRORIST ORGANIZATION, HAD DEFINITELY TAKEN CREDIT FOR THE KIDNAPPING. THIS HAD BEEN WIDELY EXPECTED SINCE IT WOULD GIVE THE GROUP A BARGAINING COUNTER REGARDING THE GROUP OF NAP MEMBERS RECENTLY CONVICTED IN A NAPLES COURT AND SENTENCED TO LONG PRISON TERMS. HOWEVER, LATE THIS AFTERNOON, A TELEPHONE CALLER TOLD THE NEWSPAPER IL MESSAGGERO

THAT HE REPRESENTED THE NAP AND THAT THE GROUP HAD IN FACT, NOT
KIDNAPPED DE MARTINO AND WOULD RELEASE A COMMUNIQUE TO THAT EFFECT.
FOR NOW, POLICE AND SECURITY SERVICES ARE STILL ACTING UNDER THE
ASSUMPTION THAT IT IS A TERRORIST KIDNAPPING FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES.
4) GOVERNMENT MEMBERS AND POLITICIANS OF ALL POLITICAL STRIPES HAVE

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PUBLICLY EXPRESSED THEIR SYMPATHY AND CONCERN FOR FOR THE MARTINO
FAMILY. IN THE ABSENCE OF THE KIDNAPPERS DEMANDS, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE
TO KNOW WHAT STANCE THE GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE. THE USUAL PARADOXES
OF A TERRORIST KIDNAPPING ARE PARTICULARLY HEIGHTENED IN THE ALREADY
OVERHEA TED ITALIAN POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE. IF THE GOVERNMENT IS
SOFT, IT COULD TRIGGER FURTHER POLITICAL AND OTHER KIDNAPPING.
TOO HARD AND DE MARTINO MAY DIE. COLANTONIO

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